



Substitute Senate Bill No. 637

Public Act No. 05-137

AN ACT CONCERNING A BI-STATE LONG ISLAND SOUND COMMITTEE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 25-138 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon the enactment by the state of New York of legislation having like effect*):

In order to provide for [the] maximum [enhancement of the marine resources] public enjoyment and to protect the natural resources of Long Island Sound, which is threatened by proposed industrialization and negative uses, including, but not limited to, proposed private projects, the legislature hereby finds that the best interest of the people of the state and the communities involved will be served by the establishment of a Connecticut-New York Bi-State Long Island Sound [Marine Resources] Committee to make specific recommendations concerning the maintenance, protection and restoration of such [marine] natural resources.

Sec. 2. Section 25-139 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon the enactment by the state of New York of legislation having like effect*):

There is hereby established a Bi-State Long Island Sound [Marine

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Resources] Committee. Such committee shall consist of eighteen members, nine of whom shall be residents of Connecticut and nine of whom shall be residents of New York. The Connecticut members shall be as follows: Three members of the senate representing districts that include coastal municipalities, one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one appointed by the majority leader of the Senate and one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; three members of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives and one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and the Governor, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the director of the Connecticut coastal zone management program, or their designees.

Sec. 3. Section 25-140 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon the enactment by the state of New York of legislation having like effect*):

The committee may make such recommendations as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this part. In furtherance of its responsibilities under this part, the committee [shall] may coordinate and recommend standardization of all laws relative to Long Island Sound including, but not limited to, standardization of jurisdiction of coastal waters by harbor management commissions, municipal waterfront authorities, municipal conservation commissions, municipal port authorities and municipal shellfish commissions. The committee shall consider the adverse impact any action proposed in or for Long Island Sound may have upon the [marine] public trust resources of said sound. The committee shall prepare and submit a report to the governors and the legislatures of the respective states on or before February fifteenth, annually. The report shall make recommendations for legislation regarding proposed industrialization and private use of public trust resources of Long Island Sound. In

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developing such recommendations, the committee shall seek to (1) avoid, (2) minimize, and (3) mitigate the impacts of such proposed industrialization and private use of public trust resources of said sound. For the purposes of this section, "public trust resources" shall include, but not be limited to, the historic and broad boating use of said sound by the public, the right of the public to enjoy and explore the natural beauty of said sound by boat, the rights of the public and commercial fishermen to harvest fish and shellfish from said sound, the protection of all natural resources of said sound that are held in trust by the state for the public, the stewardship and restoration of sites along the coast of said sound that contain important habitat or natural resources and the protection of sites that provide opportunities for public enjoyment of said sound.

Sec. 4. Section 25-140a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon the enactment by the state of New York of legislation having like effect*):

The Bi-State Long Island Sound [Marine Resources] Committee, established pursuant to sections 25-138 to 25-142, inclusive, may solicit proposals from any interested and qualified party for a design for a uniform sign denoting coastal access to Long Island Sound in the states of Connecticut and New York. The committee may make a recommendation regarding such signs to the governors and the legislatures of the respective states. [during their 1993 legislative sessions.]

Sec. 5. Section 25-141 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon the enactment by the state of New York of legislation having like effect*):

The committee may request and receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the state of Connecticut or the state of New York, or any political subdivision

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thereof or any public authority or not-for-profit organization such data as may be necessary to enable the committee to carry out its responsibilities under this part.

Approved June 24, 2005